WASHINGTON.

Efforts of the Democrats to Arrange a Programme.

ACTION OF THE CAUCUS COMMITTEE.

The Republican Opposition in the Senate.

SUDDEN 'ANXIETY FOR INFORMATION.

Preparing the Way for a Repeal of the Federal Election Laws.

GENERAL WASHINGTON DESPATCHES.

WASHINGTON, March 21, 1879. THE DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS ON THE ORDER OF BUSINESS -- SUMMARY OF BILL TO BE PRE-SENTED TO THE JOINT COMMITTEE.

Representative House, chairman of the democratic aucus, to-day appointed the following committee to confer with the caucus committee of the Senate, with view to determining what the order of business shall be during the extra session:-Messrs. Chalmers, of Mississippi, chairman; Carlisle, of Kenof Illinois; Tucker, of Virginia; Atkins, of Tennes see: Clymer, of Pennsylvania: Reagan, of Texas:

The committee immediately after the adjournment of the House met in the room of the Committee on Ways and Means for the purpose of holding a pre-liminary conference previous to their joint session

A general interchange of views occurred with regard to the most practical mode of procedure, and considerable difference of opinion was manifested as to the most effective and judicious course to be adopted. Without passing upon any resolutions whatever chairman of the Senate caucus commit tee, it was decided to postpone all further consideration of the question at issue until to-morrow morning at eleven o'clock, at which time a joint meeting will be held with the Senate ittee and definite action will probably be taken, the nature of which will be reported to a joint caucus of the democratic members of each House. Although the time for holding the cancus has not yet been announced, it is thought by mempers of the House that it will be held on Monday or Puesday. Messrs. Springer, Carlisle and Reagan were appointed a sub-committee on the part of the use committee to prepare a bill for consideration at the joint meeting to-morrow, embodying provisions for the repeal of certain porns of the federal election laws and such provisions as the sub-committee may consider depeal, in case the majority shall determine that it is not advisable to adhere to the original programme of passing the Appropriation bills precisely in the form so far as regards the political clauses, in which they were passed by the House last session.

The sub-committee this afternoon complete comprehensive measure, based mainly upon Mr. Springer's suggestions, the principal features of

which are as follows:—

It proposes to repeal sections 2,020 to 2,027 inclusive, and also section 2,031 of the Revised Statutes of providing that no person shall be appointed a super-visor who is not a resident of the precinct in which

The sections to be repealed are those which authorize the appointment of a chief supervisor and of deputy marshals for special service at

The appointment of two supervisors of different politics to serve in a merely testimonial capacity is not interfered with by this bill.

It is provided that supervisors of elections who may be prevented from performing their duties shall report the facts to the judge of the nearest

United States Court, to be by him laid before the proper Grand Jury. Regulations are prescribed to prevent any impair-

ment of the secrecy of ballots, requiring them to be of uniform size and to be printed on plain white paper, &c.

The bill proposes to repeal the sections which now

permit the presence of troops at the polls under certain circumstances and to substitute for them substantially the British law on the subject, which prohibits soldiers being stationed at any point nearer han two miles from the polls or to go to them exsept for the purpose of voting, in which case they must immediately afterward return to their station The bill will also embody a repeal of the jurors'

test oath provisions of the existing law.

It is believed by Mr. Springer that the President will approve a separate bill of this character and that the threatened deadlock on the appropriation bills may thus be wholly averted.

THE NEW HAMPSHIRE SENATORSHIP. The Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections this afternoon heard the Hon. Charles H. Bell and Senater Rollins, of New Hampshire, on the argument supporting the validity of the former's appointment by the Governor to fill the New Hampshire vacancy in the Senate. After some informal discussion on the part of the members of the committee the further consideration of the subject was postponed

THE RESTORATION OF MAJOR RUNKLE TO THE ARMY-REPORT OF THE SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE-UNLAWFUL ACTION OF THE

A report has now been printed which was presented to the Senate by Mr. Edmunds in the closing hours of the last session, stating the conclusions reached by the Judiciary Committee as the result of the investigation ordered by the Senate, on motion of Mr. Conkling, in regard to the President's alleged unlawful restoration of Major Benjamin P. Runkle to the army.

This case, which attracted much attention a year or more ago, involved two important questions-First-Whether the President of the United States has authority to convene general courts martial.

Second-Whether the President's own signature to the approval of a sentence dismissing an officer from the army is necessary to give effect to the dismissal. In the case of Runkle, as in many others which preceded it, the signature of the Secretary of War was the only attestation of the approval of the President, and his restoration to rank and back pay upon this ground, if legally established as a precedent, would refore have a very extensive bearing. The conclusions of the committee are as follows:-

clusions of the committee are as follows:—

The committee are of the opinion that Benjamin P. Runkie was regularly tried and sentenced by the court martial named in the papers, and that the sentence of the court was duly, effectually, regularly and lawfully approved by the President of the United States, and that in consequence thereof the said Runkie was lawfully dismissed from the army of the United States. Inasmuch as the law does not authorize the President to place a private citizen in the army as an officer without the advice and consent of the Senate; and inasmuch as the said Runkie was restored to the army by an Executive order, made without such advice or consent, it follows that his restoration was not warranted by inw, and that the public money paid to him as salary or arrears of salary have been paid without authority of law, and that the has no valid, legal claim for pay or compensation as such.

history of the case and the evidence taken by the committee are made a part of this report.

The Judiciary Committee's report is in full accordance with the opinions successively given in this case by Judge Advocate General Dunn and At-

torney General Devens while Major Runkle's appliation for restoration was before the Preside

NOMINATIONS BY THE PRESIDENT.
The President sent the following nominat Clarence King, of New York, to be Director of the

Geographical Survey.

Francis A. Walker, of Connecticut, to be Superin endent of the Census. Daniel W. Gooch, to be pension agent at Boston,

William A. Herron, to be pension agent at Pittsburg, Pa.

David H. Strother, of West Virginia, to be United States Consul General at Mexico.
Stephen R. Risley, of New York, to be Supervis ing Inspector of Steam Vessels for the Se

James Pollock, to be Naval Officer at Philadelphia George Holmes, to be Collector of Customs, Beau-

James H. Durkee, to be United States Marshal, Northern district of Florida. Hornce Austin, of Minnesota, to be Register of Land

Jacob H. Stewart, to be United States Surveyor

General for Minnesota.

Indian Agents—Wilson M. Stanley, of Illinois, for Pinos Agency; Colonel G. Eastman, of Michigan, for Navajo Agency, New Mexico.

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS.

SENATE. Washington, March 21, 1879. Mr. McMillan, (rep.) of Minn., introduced a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the constitu-tion of the United States as follows:--

resolution proposing an amendment to the constitution of the United States as follows:—

Resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress
assembled, two-thirds of each House concurring
therein. That the following amendment to the constitution of the United States, which, when ratified
by three-fourths of said Legislatures, shall be valid
as a part of the sead constitution.

That section 7 of article 1 of the constitution of the
United States be amended by inserting at the end of
said section the following words—that is to say,
"If any bill presented to the United States, in pursuance of this section, contains several items of appropriation of money the President may object to
one or more of such items of appropriation of money and eontains also a provision or
provisions embracing general or special legislation
the President may object to one or more of such
items of appropriation of money, or such provision or provisions embracing general or special
legislation, or to one or more of both and
approve the other portions of the bill. In all such
cases he shall append to the bill at the time of signing it a statement of the items of appropriation of
money, or the provisions embracing general or special
legislation, or both, as the case may be, to
which he objects, and the appropriation and provisions embracing general or special legislation of
money or the provisions embracing such general or
special legislation, or both, as the case may be, to
which he objects, and the appropriation of
money or the provisions embracing such general or
special legislation, or both, as the case may be, to
which he objects, to the House in which the bill originust, and the items and provisions of the bill objected
to shall not take effect.

"If Congress be in session the President shall transmit a statement of the items of appropriation of
money or the provisions embracing such general or
special legislation, or both, as the case may be, in
said bill to which he obje

on the Judiciary.

The following bills were introduced:—

By Mr. Laman, (dem.) of Miss.—Providing for the organization of the Mississippi River Improvement Commission, the deepening of the channel of the river and the protection of the alluvisi lands.

By Mr. McPhanson, (dem.) of N. Y.—Authorizing the equipment of an expedition to the Arctic Seas.

By Mr. Beck, of Kentucky—Amending the Revised Statutes so as to authorize purchases of foreign built ships by citizens of the United States; also providing for the retiring of the trade dollar and their recoinage into the standard silver dollar; also for the repeal of section 1,218 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, which provides that no person who served in any capacity in the military, naval or civil service of the Confederate States or any one of them shall be appointed to any position in the army of the United States.

All of the above bills were referred to the appro-

All of the above bills were referred to the appro-

MR. CONKLING GROWS PACETION Mr. CONKLING, (rep.) of N. Y., referred to the fact that although numerous bills and resolutions had been introduced no printed copies had yet been placed on the tables of the Senators. There were so many radical changes going on that this seemed

to add new terrors.

Mr. COCKRELL, (dem.) of Mo., said that his side of the chamber would take the responsibility.

Mr. Conkling replied that that, like everything

else, ought to proceed from the majority of the

Mr. COCKRELL, of Missouri, said he sympathized the majority of the Senate was not responsible for

the majority of the Senate was not responsible for the papers not being printed and laid upon the table. The republicans were responsible for the delay, their officers being in possession of the business. Mr. EDMUNDA, (rep.) of Vt., called up the resolu-tion heretofore offered by him proposing to confine the business of the session to the object for which it

was called.
On motion of Mr. Wallace, (dem.) of Pa., it was laid on the table—yeas 35, nays 28—a strict party Mr. Hoan, (rep.) of Mass., submitted the following

resolution:

Resolved, That the refusal by one House of Congress to make necessary provision for the support of the executive, legislative and judicial departments and for the defence of the country except upon the condition that the other House and the Fresident shall give their assent to legislation which they disapprove, and the refusal by Congress to make such provision except upon condition that the President shall give such assent, are unconstitutional, revolutionary, and if persisted in must lead to the overthree constitutional government and the destruction of the national life.

which they man as the account of that the Press' dear thall give such assent more constitutional the variety of the constitutional government and the destruction of the national life.

ACCOUNTS OF UNITED STATES MARSHALS.

Mr. WALLACK, of Pennsylvania, objected, saying "Let it be printed," which was ordered.

Mr. WALLACK then called up his resolution submitted on Wednesday, as follows:—

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Treasury be and he is hereby requested to furnish to the Senate a detailed statement of the accounts of the marshals of the United Statement of the accounts of the marshals of the United Statement of the accounts of the marshals of the United Statement of the accounts of the marshals of the United Statement of the accounts of the marshals of the United Statement of the accounts of the marshals of the United States of the Account of the accounts of the marshals of the United States by or paid to each of said special deputies an end appear of the accounts of the marshals for services connected withed States by the said marshals for services connected withed States by the said marshals for services connected withed States by the said marshals for services connected withed States by the said marshals for services connected withed States by the said marshals for services connected withed States by the said marshals for services connected with the states of the United States in the respective States. "There was information acto States of the Treasure of Trea

with the inquiry in a few of the States, and the inquiry could be made as to the others when needed.

Mr. Edmunds, of Vermont—What committee?

Mr. WALLACK—The committee constituted to inquire into francis at the recent elections.

Mr. Edmunds—The committee is authorized to send for persons and papers without the intervention of the Senate.

Mr. WALLACK and the committee had been in sec.

Mr. Edwards—The committee is authorized to send for persons and papers without the intervention of the Senate.

Mr. Wallace said the committee had been in session three months; had obtained all the information it needed; had concluded its labors, and made its report on one of the branches of the insulry. The preposition of the Senator from New York was the phase of a new inquiry. Although the committee might apply to the Secretary of the Treasury for the information named in the resolution there certainly was nothing improper in calling for it in this way. The Senate sheald assent to whatever would give light to the country, and if a member of the committee sought to obtain it in this way there should be no objection.

Mr. Conkling held that the Senator from Pennsylvania asked for this information for a special committee, while he (Mr. Conkling) asked to information for the Committee of the Whole, composed of all the people of the country, who were looking on with justifiable curiosity. He humbly asked that the information, saying the facts showed that there had been interference by the federal agents in State elections, and he thought that nothing should be done to delay the furnishing of the information.

Mr. Bayann, (dem.) of Mr., opposed Mr. Conkling's amendment on the ground that it would delay the investigation for perhaps sixty days.

Mr. Blanke. (eep.) of Me., said that such complaints as had been made did not apply to all the States. He ventured to say there were not ten or even eight States which could be named in that connection. There were certainly none in Maine and Vermont, nor in Michigan, Wisconsin, Kansas, Minnesota and Nebraska, nor California. Would the Sonators say that if such general information were asked for it would imply that marshals and their deputies were used in the rural portions of the country as well as in large, boisterous centres, where there were rowlytism and corrupt practices which must be kept in check? The Senate and the country ought to have the information called for by

ought to have the information called for by the aniendment.

Mr. Beck, of Kentucky, repeated that whatever might be the purpose of the amendment its adoption would delay the investigation. Let the Senator from New York offer his proposition in the shape of a separate resolution, which could be passed if no one on the republican side objected.

Mr. CONKLING, of New York, replied, saying, among other things, that he understood it would not require more than forty-eight hours to prepare and furnish all the information called for by his amendment. It would not, therefore, do to object to it on the ground of delay.

Mr. McDonald, (dem.) of Md.—As the Senator said the information can be furnished in forty-eight hours I simply ask if he has authority for the statement. If it takes twice as long I will yote for his amendment.

Mr. CONNLING of New York—I say these accounts.

mendment.

Mr. Conkling, of New York—I say these accounts are in the Treasury Department and can be copied in orty-eight hours. Does the Senator doubt that?

Mr. McDonald, of Indiana—There is a difference etween what is said can be done and what will be

Mr. McDonald, of Indiana—There is a difference between what is said can be done and what will be done.

Mr. Earon, (dem.) of Conn.—I doubt it.

Mr. Conkling—The Senator from Indiana has found an adjunct in the Senator from Connecticut, who is willing to doubt. I do not doubt, because it is inconceivable that half a dozen elerks cannot copy what is already in books. To doubt is a draft on credulity which no man can honor, though the Senator from Pennsylvania is in doubt.

Mr. Earon, of Connecticut—The Senator from New York says he wants the broadest light. He shall have it by my vote, but not now. It would take a longer time than forty-eight hours to furnish the information the Senator seeks. It would be fortunate if it were obtained in four times forty-eight hours.

Mr. Conkling—Does the Senator think it would take a longer or shorter time to give the information concerning the five States mentioned than all the residue of the States? If, as the Senator says, it would take four times forty-eight hours, does he think that time would cover the residue of the States or not?

Mr. Earon—If it would take ten, fifteen or twenty clerks forty-eight hours, or four times forty-eight hours, or four times forty-eight hours, to furnish the information called for by the resolution, it would require forty clerks to furnish the information called for by the mendment, and, therefore, another force of the department would have to be employed.

The question having being taken Mr. Conkling's amendment was disagreed to—yeas 27, nays 36—a strict party vote.

Mr. Conkling then submitted an amendment in

amendment was disagreed to—yeas 21, hays 30—a strict party vote.

Mr. Conkling then submitted an amendment in the form of a separate resolution, namely:—
Resolved, further, that the same information called for in the preceding resolution be likewise sent to the Senate in respect to each State not named in the resolution, without deterring an unswer to the preceding resolution.

Mr. EDMUNDS offered the following:-Resolved further, That he report fully all information in his peasession touching the question and necessity of such expenditures and the operation of the laws under which they were made.

Mr. WALLACE said that the information ought to be asked of the Attorney General. Mr. EDERUNDS replied that it called for whatever information was in possession of the Secretary of

information was in possession of the Secretary of the Treasury.

Mr. Wallack said it invited newspaper accounts or loose rumors in his possession. He hoped the opinion of the Secretary of the Treasury would not be asked in this form.

Mr. Edmunds replied there was not a line in his amendment calling for an opinion, but for youch-crs in the Secretary's office, which would show on whose application the money was expended and whether the number of marshals was too large or too small.

Mr. KERNAN, (dem.) of N. Y., said the committee ought to be allowed to obtain the information without being embarrassed.

Mr. Saulsbury, (dem.) of Del., said the Senators had shown a new-born zeal on this occasion, but when they had control of the Senate there was no

Agr. Saclastar, (near.) of Del., said the Senators had shown a new-born zeal on this occasion, but when they had control of the Senate there was no attempt made by them to obtain the information. He would prefer to see them take the situation a little more cheerfully. We will, he said, aid them in obtaining the information in a proper way, but when we strike a line for our action there should be no drawback. It should be understood that the democrats pursue their own line of policy without regard to consulting the republicans. I hope they will behave like Christian statesman and bear it mantully. (Laughter.)

Mr. EDMUNDS replied that he had always supposed that where there were two parties a Senator was still a Senator. He thought that a Senator in the minority even had the right to submit an amendment to a pending measure. He had not known before now that because a Senator was in the minority he had no right to attempt to correct legislation. He did not know but by direction of some conclave of democracy a resolution would be brought in to correct the yes and nay list by striking off names. The minority would leave the responsibility where it belongs—to the democratic party. When the Senator was in the minority he frequently saw him rise to submit amendments to pending propositions, and no objection was made by the majority to his right to do so, the propriety of it depending on their merit and not because of any particular Senator. He knew of no rule changing this practice. The people will be sorry to learn of it, but it will be corrected by and by.

Mr. Edmunds dered another resolution, namely:—

party vote—yeas 27, nays 36.

Mr. EDMUNDS offered another resolution, namely:-Resolved further. That as seen as possible after the in-proaction called for by the foregoing resolution shall be urnished he report fully all the information in his posses-tion touching the question of the necessity for the ex-

penditures.

This amendment was also rejected—yeas 27, nays 36—a strict party vote.

The resolution of Mr. Wallace, as amended by consent, was then agreed to.

The Vice Parsiners, under the provision of the resolution, appointed Senator Booth a member of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution to supply a vacancy caused by the expiration of Senator sargent's term of Congressional survice.

The Senate went into executive season at two o'clock, and, when the doors were opened at twenty minutes past two o'clock, adjourned until Monday.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. ELLIS, (dem.) of La., offered a resolution in creasing the membership of the Committee on Elec ions from eleven to nineteen, and stated that he did so in the interest of economy and correctness of representation, since it frequently happened that able to report on election cases until the last day

Mr. Mills, (dem) of Texas, thought that every cor tested election case should go to a special committee Mr. Furk, (rep.) of Me., said that he degired to applogate for a remark which he had made the other day—namely, that he did not believe in the total deprayity of the democratic party. The vote upon the Florida case had shown him that he was mistaken

The resolution was finally referred to the Commit ec on Rules. The resolution was analy referred to the commit-tee on Rules.

Mr. Reagan, (dem.) of Texas, desired to refer sev-eral bills, but Mr. Conger, of Michigan, objected. He also objected to reference of a re-olution which Mr. Young, of Tennessee, desired to offer for the reap-pointment of the yellow fever committee.

The House then, at twenty minutes past twelve, adjourned until Tuesday.

A QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE

RICHMOND, Va., March 21, 1879. In the Senate to-day Senator Massey, of Albemarie rose to a question of privilege, and proceeded to read a paper severely reflecting on Senator C. T. Smith, a paper severely reflecting on Senator C. T. Smith, of Nelson, for publishing a speech which reflected on Massey. The language of the paper was to the effect that the speech aliuded to, for unrefluement, indeiteacy, coarseness, misrepresentation, deramation and vindictiveness, surpassed anything he had ever heard in the halls of the Legislature. Proceeding with similar severe language, Senator Massey was several times called to order, and during his remarks Senator Smith denounced him as a liar, a scoundrel and a dog. A scene ensued, and several propositions to reprimand the offending Senators and require them to apologize were made. After debate, the matter was reterred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections for a report as to what action in the premises should be taken by the Sanata.

Causes for the Recent Panic in the Crescent City.

CONDITION OF THE NATIONAL BANKS.

Disastrous Effects of a Supreme Court Decision.

DEPRECIATION OF STATE SECURITIES

Want of Credit and Consequent Agricultural Stagnation.

[FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

WASHINGTON, March 21, 1879 slight attention at the Treasury to-day and is consid, ered there a matter of no real importance. The tutions and the seven national banks are in good believed to have invested largely in State and New Orleans city securities, especially the latter, which have become depreciated to the extent of twenty per cent by reason of a decision of the State Supreme Court, which declared unconstitutional a probably true also that the declared intention of the Constitutional Convention, an election for which has just been held, to tinker with the State credit, has had the effect of shaking confidence in the State bonds, Governor Nicholls having been unable with the best intentions to carry out the refunding scheme which was begun under the Kellogg gov ernment.

There are seven national banks in New Orleans, with an aggregate capital of only \$2,875,000. There are eleven State and savings banks, with a total capital of \$4,284,000. Concerning the condition of these State banks nothing is known at the Treasury. They issue no notes, of course. The seven nationa banks appear to be in good condition.

CONDITION OF THE NATIONAL BANKS. The latest official report to the Comptroller of the Currency, which runs from February 13 to March 3. shows the following figures:-

Abstract of Examiner's reports made to the Comptroiler of the Currency, showing the condition of the national banks in the city of New Orleans February 13 to March 3, 1879:--

	Loans and discounts		-
	Loans and discounts	\$5,389,801	ME.
	Overdrafts	144,647	
	United States bonds to secure circulation		
	United States bonds to secure deposits		
	United States bonds on hand	259,500	
	Other stocks, bonds and mortgages		
	Due from approved reserve agents		
	Due from other national banks	337,410	
	Due from State banks and bankers	421,485	
	Real estate, furniture and fixtures	395,078	
	Current expenses and taxes paid		
	Premiums paid	42,620	
	Checks and other cash items	17,513	
	Exchanges for Clearing House	1,333,070	
	Bills of other national banks	177,912	
	Fractional currency	4,151	
	Specie	157,128	
	Legal tender notes	1,534,948	
	Five per cent redemption fund	76,500	
	Due from United States Treasurer	1,000	00
	Total resources	\$14,122,000	93
	Capital stock paid in		122
	Capital stock paid in	\$2,875,000	u
	Surplus fund	453,000	
ı	Other undivided profits		
	National bank notes outstanding		
	Dividends unpaid		
	Individuals' deposits	8,051,345	
	United States deposits		
	Due to other national banks		
	Due to State banks and bankers	THE RESERVE THE PARTY OF THE PA	4000
	Total Habilities	\$14,122,006	8
	Number of banks		A STATE

Compared with the report of the 6th of December t appears that the loans and discounts have de-reased since that date by \$723,000. The legal tender notes have increased by \$518,000. The amount banks, that is to say—has increased by \$869,000; while on the other side of the account the individual deposits have increased \$1,544,000. The other stocks, bonds, &c., must include all the State and city bonds held by these seven banks, and the

there is a large increase in the amount of funds in New York banks, which was but \$372,000 in December, against \$1,241,000.

The total deposits in all the New Orleans banks are reported to be about \$10,000,000. In 1859 the were \$21,000,000; in 1860, \$19,000,000. This shows the considerable decrease since then of the business

A LOUISIANIAN'S EXPLANATION. senator Jonas, of Louisiana, who left New Orleans week ago, said to-day that at that time the national and State banks generally were complaining of having too much money on hand for profitable business The demand was very light and at this season of the year money was flowing into New Orleans rather than leaving it. The Southern Bank which had sus pended was only a State bank, and, though conducted on safe business principles, had large investments in what are known as city consolidated bonds, which were purchased at about one-half their These bonds were protected by legislation which provided that the interest should be paid out of special taxes, and which also provided for a sinking fund to meet their redemption. The constitutionality of this special legislation was tested before the State Supreme Court and decided ad-versely, which depreciated the city consols fully twenty per cent, and as the Southern Bank held about \$600,000 in these bonds the loss necessarily embarrassed the bank, and hence the failure. It was, however, only a bank of exchange, he says, and did no discount business whatever. So sound was its management that in 1873, when the New Orleans banks were compelled to do just what they are now announced to have done, the Southern Bank was able to keep out of the mutual protectiv operation and paid its depositors on demand dollar for dollar. The suspension of the bank has, he says no importance whatever. None of the old banks, he alds, have loaned money on State securities except at a very large margin, and this class of securities are at accepted by the New Orleans banks save upon the safest margin. There is just now a scarcity of currency in New Orleans by reason of the large de-posits in the banks on private deposits and, said Senator Jonas :-

The demand for money is so small that the banks have no opportunity of paying out that which they would be glad to loan on good security. I see by the New York papers that nearly \$1,000,000 has gone forward to protect the credit of the banks which have the confidence of our business men, which means that this scare will put them to the cost of paying for the transportation of funds between New few days. I am sure the action of the banks is purely of a prudential character, and the strong have united with the weak in order to do precisely what they have done before to restore public confidence me mentarily disturbed."

GENERAL GIBSON ON THE SITUATION. General Randall Gibson, who represents New Or-leans in the House, and who is familiar with both the financial and the industrial condition of the city and State, said in answer to the question why the banks had suspended :--

"I have no private advices. The suspensions and panic reported in the newspapers are undoubtedly caused by the want of confidence excited in the community by the discussions in anticipation of the Constitutional Convention. They are unreasonable, for the convention is called in the interest of econ omy and good government; but vague apprehension have been aroused, and private as well as publicredit has been impaired. In my judgment will be benefited by the convention. There had been a gradual decline in real estate since 1868 until the Nicholls government was installed, when exaggerated

bonds advanced immediately, and but for the loss of the sugar crop in 1878 and the epidemic of last sum-mer they would have continued to advance and entire confidence would have been once more restored We have had but little credit since 1868. The taxes have been an immense burden. Our city lost much of its trade by the system of railways from the East to the Mississippi Valley, which made that valley tributary to the East. Nearly one-third of the land of Louisians formerly cultivated like a garden and enormously and weeds since the war. It is as fertile as ever and labor can be readily procured, but we have been compelled to pay from fifteen to twenty-five per cent for money.

"In fact we have had no credit. I have an estate of near'y ten thousand acres, with seven houses and machinery, ready for the plough, and the colored people have remained upon it cultivating small patches; but, while it would require \$50,000 to put it in operation, I could not at any time raise \$10,000 secured by a mortgage upon the whole of it in the last ten years and I should have been compelled to pay a rainous rate of interest. It has lain idle. This is the condition of hundreds of planters. What we need is credit; we have the lands and labor, but no money and no credit. If we ans would produce more cotton and sugar and rice than before the war. This panic will not last. The most intelligent citizens and they will do nothing to drive away capital and to destroy credit. It that citizens of Louisiana have invested \$2,500,000 in four per cent federal bonds this winter and that \$4,000,000 of foreign capital have been withdrawn. As soon as the convention shall assemble confidence will be restored and our credit will be placed upon a firm basis, and all this capital will flow back into the channe's of business and enable us in the country to ployment to the people. The city will be equally benefited, for its life and prosperity depend upon the crops. I think it but fair, although the debt ha been once scaled, that, owing to the calamities I have mentioned, the creditors of the State should consent to a reduction of the rate of interest. Seven per cent is too high for public securities. If the its punctual payment provided for, the creditors will find that their bonds will improve. I repose entire confidence in the ability of Governor Nicholls and Lieutenant Governor Wiltz, and the gentlemen who have been selected to the committee to deal with the situation."

WHAT NEW YORK BANKERS THINK OF THE SITUATION.

The slight excitement which existed in banking circles on Thursday on account of the temporary suspension of the banks in New Orleans had totally subsided yesterday. The correspondents in the city of the suspended banks said that everything was quiet in New Orleans and that there was no danger of a panic. At the Third National Bank a despatch was received from the National Bank of Louisians, of which it is the correspondent, stating that they had all the money required, that the excitement had passed away, and that the merchants of New Orleans generally accepted the action of the Clearing House. Bankers say that the whole movement of the Clearing House at New Orleans was done by the strong banks in order to protect them selves from any trouble which might be precipitated by a run on the weaker banks. It was claimed that after ten days the strong banks will resume, and those banks which are unable to keep up their balances will have to go under. It is estimated by bankers that the total amount sent from this city to the assistance of the New Orleans banks was \$1,500,000 all that was required. They say that when the excitement is all over this money will be returned to this city on deposit. Bankers claim that the effect of this city on deposit. Bunkers claim that the effect of this temporary suspension of the New Orleans banks will be of benefit to this city, because the withdrawal of \$1.500,000 from here will reduce proportionately the legal tender reserve, and banks will be thus enabled to claim and obtain a stiffer interest on called loans. There was no excitement whatever on the Cotton or Produce exchanges, and the temporary suspension of the banks was considered a triding matter. A gentleman who arrived from New Orleans yesterday said that this suspension of the banks in that city was expected for some time, and that the weak condition of the Southern and Mechanics' and Traders' banks had been known for two weeks. The failure of the New Orleans Savings Institution about a fortnight since hal caused a temporary panie. A great deal of the investments of this savings institution were in real estate, which, when appraised, was considered of little value on account of the heavy arrears of taxes on the property. This opened the eyes of the larger banks, and they premeditated this plan of temporary suspension to prevent a run similar to that on the savings banks. He said that the suspension would not affect mercantile transactions, because all payments for cotten or sugar could be made by drafts on New York. made by drafts on New York.

MALFEASANCE IN OFFICE.

INVESTIGATING CHARGES PREFERRED AGAINST A. C. POWELL, SUPERINTENDENT OF THE ONONDAGA SALT SPRINGS RESERVATION. [BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

SYRACUSE, N. Y., March 21, 1879. The democratic managers of the charges of mal-feasance in office against A. C. Powell, State Superintendent of the Onondaga Salt Springs Reservation, are preparing to push the investigation with vigor next Monday. Samuel T. Benedict, Governor Robinson's commissioner to take testimony, writes that he will be in Syracuse on Monday, when he hopes during the week to finish the case. The last investigation, which adjourned in December, led to a change in the programme. The old charges covered work against A. C. Powell, Son & Company. An examination of the books in court developed the fact that work had also been done for the State by Powell & Son. After the late adjournment amended charges were made by the managers, Messrs, Beach & Garneld, to cover work done by Powell & Son of the same character as that done by A. C. Powell, Son & Co. One new charge was also made against the Superintendent-

that done by A. C. Powell, Son & Co. One new charge was also made against the Superintendent—that of unequal distribution of brine. A witness for the State, a sait manumeturer, testified that Superintendent Powell refused point blank to give him any brine, but lurnished the same to a block adjoining. The only reason he knew for the Superintendent's refusal was because he (the witness) did not get all his private work done at Powell & Co.'s machine shop. The managers believe they have already a strong case against the Superintendent. They claim that he has plainly violated the Revised Statutes, which declare that the Superintendent of the Sait Springs shall not be directly or indirectly interested in any work done on the reservation.

STRONG EVIDENCE AGAINST POWELL.

The tostimony taken on this point has come from a member of the firm of A. C. Powell, Son & Co. and also from the books of the same firm. It shows that Superintendent Powell has been during his term a member of a firm which has done business for the State. This firm purchased an engine for \$250, repaired the same, figuring the whole expense, including profit on work and material, at \$762. Superintendent Powell, acting as State agent, then bought this engine of his own firm, paying \$1,850, making a secondary profit of over \$1,000. Another damaging piece of testimony was elicited in a contract made by the Superintendent with a wheelwright for a water wheel. The wheelwright let the contract for furnishing the iron work, without competition, to the firm of which the Superintendent is a member. The firm did the work for the wheelwright, charging for it, including profit for labor and material, \$45. The State paid for this work done by Powell's firm, \$3,000, showing another secondary profit of over \$2,000. A number of other transactions of a similar character were shown. It is estimated that the State has lost, owing to the leak five years. The charges first made were brought by large machinists and manufacturers to this position as Superintendent of the

ORATORY AT CORNELL.

ITHACA, N. V., March 21, 1879. The contest for the Woodford prize in oratory at Cornell University, established by General Woodford, came off this evening. The victor was Alfred Millard,

THE MURDERED ACTOR

Benjamin C. Porter's Body on Its Way North for Burial.

SYMPATHY FOR THE FAMILY.

Fears that Barrymore's Wound Is Mortal.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

Dallas, Texas, March 21, 1879. Maurice Barrymore, the actor shot by James Currie at Marshall yesterday, was, at half-past six o'clock this evening, under the influence of mor-phine, and his physicians forbid him to hold any onversation, as his wound is very painful and shows inflammatory symptoms. Fears are entertained that he will not recover. There is strong talk of lynching Currie, but no open demonstrations of violence have yet been made. The affair is conunprovoked that ever occurred in the State.

CURRIE REMANDED TO JAIL. iscomb and A. Pope, of Marshall, and M. S. Crane, of Shreveport, La., who forbid him to converse on et of the tragedy with anybody, and especially with newspaper men. He was this morning prought before Justice of the Peace Hanson, and his counsel waiving an examination, was remanded to jail. The case will come up again next week, proba-

PRACTICAL SYMPATHY. Citizens of Marshall are doing everything in their power for the comfort of the troupe. A series of complimentary benefits have been tendered to the All expenses, such as rent of theatre, printing, advertising, bill posting, license, &c., are to be borne by the critizens. The following is the call, signed by hundreds of leading citizens, merchants and business

men:—
We, the undersigned, citizens of Dallas and vicinity, remembering your admirable performance here and the excellent personnel of your troupe, and in view of the sad calamity and bereavement which has so outrageously been visited upon you, beg to tender to you a complimentary benefit at the Opera House, in this city, tor any night or any number of nights as may suit your convenience and pleasure.

The daily Herald of to-morrow morning will contain the following editorial paragraph:-

tain the following editorial paragraph:—
We hope the Ward-Barrymore troupe will not leave
Texas without receiving some substantial proof that
this people are not all Jim Curries. A great benefit
has been tendered them in this city. It is our duty
to make all the reparation within our power for the
irreparable crime of a roarmg bully and red-handed
murderer upon innocent, unoffending strangers who
come here to amuse our people, and not dreaming
they would be attacked as a savage tiger springs from
his lair upon his prey.

POUTER'S BODY COMING NORTH.

Porter's remains will leave Marshall in charge of a citizen escort at half-past twelve to-night en route for

PROPOSED SUBSCRIPTION FOR THE BENEFIT OF BENJAMIN C. PORTER'S FAMILY-THE REMAINS

COMING NORTH. The peculiarly wanton murder of Mr. Benjamin C. Porter, fully reported in yesterday's Henald, has excited the greatest indignation and sympathy among his numerous friends in this city. As was said yes terday, he was a universal favorite among his fellow actors for his genial, inoffensive nature, and in theatrical circles his death was the prominent theatrical circles his death was the prominent topic of conversation. The first news of his death which reached his family was contained in a telegram received by Mr. Jerry Lant. Mr. Lant lives in Mr. Porter's house in Mr. Porter's wife, mother and niece reside. He was in New York on Thursday, and during his absence from home the telegram arrived. It was not opened until his return in the meaning, and thus the pajurdul duty of breaking the news to the stricken family fell upon him. The despatch read as follows:—

Mr. Jany Lany, Pausspo, N. J.:—

B. C. Porter died at one clock this morning, secidentally shot Break the news gently to his mother. Shall we bury him here? Or will send the body on it you cesire WARDE & BARKYMORE.

WARDE & BARKYMORE.

Yesterday a second despatch was received, saying that the body had been sent.

The grief of the ladies is described as something terrible, and feats are expressed lest his mother, who is about sixty-five years of age, will be unable to rally from the shock. The younger Mrs. Porter visited New York yesterday and saw several of her husband's friends, but was herself almost overcoms with crief.

husband's friends, but was berself simes, evercome with grief.

HELP FOR THE BEREAVED FAMILY.

The circumstances of the family are understood to be straitened and, as is always the case among actors, almost the first thought expressed was that they should be helped. Mr. Forter owned the house in which he lived, but it is of small value and is said to be considerably encumbered. The first person to move in the matter was Colonel Sinn. of Brooklyn, who sent the following card to this office:—

BEAUTICE MATCH AND THE MATCH 21, 1878.

who sent the following card to this office:

BROOKLEN PARK THEATHE, March 21, 1878.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:

DEAR SIRE—Now is the opportunity for a theatrical benefit. The cause is a good one, and I know the profession will heartily indorse me. Let us give a boucht, the funds raised by the hencit to go toward defraying the expenses of britising the remains of Mr. B. C. Porter to Now York, and the walance, if any, for his family. I have this morning telegraphed to Mr. Maurice Harrymore to draw on me for 80, to be used toward defraying the expense of bringing Mr. Porter's remains North. If we can't get a benefit up let us open a subscription, as I sed confident the members of the theutrical profession and others we fill the to subscribe. You see decide to give a benefit they should the theatricity from the cedde to give a benefit they can have the theatric, free of rent and gas, any afternoon, excepting Wednesday or Saturday, Respectfully, Manager Brooklyn Park Theatre.

He also sent word to Mr. R. C. Gardiner, of Gar-

excepting Wednesday or Saturday. Respectfully, Manager Brooklyn Park Theatre.

Manager Brooklyn Park Theatre.

He also sent word to Mr. R. C. Gardiner, of Gardiner's Dramatic Agency, of what he had done, and suggesting that he should open a subscription at his office, No. 12 Union square. Mr. Gardiner thought well of the idea, and said that he would cheerfully take charge of any communications or contributions. A benefit was, of course, thought of, but the general feeling among those who were talking of the matter in the different places of resort was tast a subscription would be far better, as if it were begun contributions would come in from every dramatic troups in the country, and more money could be raised than by any benefit performance.

"There's one thing that ought not to be forgotten," said one friend, "and that is that some of the fund should be devoted, if it is necessary, to securing the conviction of his murderer. It is possible that Barrymore and Miss Baker may start North before the trial, and they should have their expenses paid to go back there to testify." This sentiment was warmly approved by the few who heard it.

Mr. Charles Furbish telegraphed yesterday to Texas, to learn at what time the remains would probably arrive in New York, and also sent a measunger to Pamrapo to learn what was the desire of the iamily in relation to the funeral. It was his request that the body should be received by members of the profession to which Mr. Porter belonged, If the family do not object it is proposed to appoint a committee to receive the remains and escort them to the "Little Church Around the Corner," when the burial service is to be read by Jr. Houghton. It is probable that this course will be adopted, and, if to, due notice will be given of the funeral.

KINGSTON'S IRREGULAR ELECTIONS.

KINGSTON'S IRREGULAR ELECTIONS.

IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD. 1 KINGSTON, N. Y., March 21, 1879 The special Assembly committee to investigate the irregularities at the late election in the town of

Kingston arrived here to-night and will proceed to business to-norrow. The committee consists of Mesers, Gidden, Hepburn, Prendergast, Chickering and Morison. They will be the guests of General George H. Sharpe during their stay in the city. KENTUCKY GREENBACKERS. CINCINSATI, Ohio, March 21, 1879. The State Greenbackers' Convention, at Frankfort,

The State Greenbackers Convention, at Frankfort, Ky., yesterday, composed about a hundred delegates. The following ticket was nominated:—For Governor, James Stewart: Lieutenant Governor, Dr. B. B. Lewis; Attorney General, Isaac Trabue; Auditor, Henry Potter; Treasurer, John Wolcutt; Register, John McMurtry.

WEST POINT APPOINTMENT. WASHINGTON, March 21, 1879. Mr. James W. Covert, of the First Congressional district of New York, having at his disposal an appointment to the West Point Military Academy, will nil it in accordance with the result of a competitive examination in his district early next month, for which he will shortly make arrangements.

READING RAILROAD STATEMENT.

PHILADELPHIA, March 21, 1879. The comparative statement of the Reading Bailron Company for the month of February shows an in-crease in gross receipts from all sources of \$384,000. A comparative statement of the year ending with February shows an increase in gross receipts of \$202,000 ever the twelve months ending February, 1878.